Name: _____ Date: _____

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod

Reading level 7 (3rd grade) · 279 words

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod one night Sailed off in a wooden shoe-- Sailed on a river of crystal light, Into a sea of dew. “Where are you going, and what do you wish?” The old moon asked the three. “We have come to fish for the herring fish That live in this beautiful sea; Nets of silver and gold have we!” Said Wynken, Blynken, And Nod. The old moon laughed and sang a song, As they rocked in the wooden shoe, And the wind that sped them all night long Ruffled the waves of dew.

The little stars were the herring fish That lived in that beautiful sea-- “Now cast your nets wherever you wish-- Never afeard are we”; So cried the stars to the fishermen three: Wynken, Blynken, And Nod. All night long their nets they threw To the stars in the twinkling foam-- Then down from the skies came the wooden shoe, Bringing the fishermen home; ’Twas all so pretty a sail it seemed As if it could not be, And some folks thought ’twas a dream they’d dreamed Of sailing that beautiful sea-- But I shall name you the fishermen three: Wynken, Blynken, And Nod.

Wynken and Blynken are two little eyes, And Nod is a little head, And the wooden shoe that sailed the skies Is a wee one’s trundle-bed. So shut your eyes while mother sings Of wonderful sights that be, And you shall see the beautiful things As you rock in the misty sea, Where the old shoe rocked the fishermen three: Wynken, Blynken, And Nod.

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod was written by Eugene Field. With Trumpet and Drum was published in 1892.

Questions

1. What do Wynken, Blynken, and Nod sail in?

A. A boat of straw
B. A silver ship
C. A wooden shoe

2. What are the herring fish in the poem?

A. The little stars
B. Real fish
C. Gold coins

3. In this poem, what does "afeard" mean?

A. Angry
B. Afraid

C. Alone

4. Which three words end many of the verses?

A. Wynken, Blynken, And Nod
B. wooden shoe
C. the old moon

5. Who are Wynken and Blynken at the end?

A. Two little stars
B. Two little fish
C. Two little eyes

Words to know

herring: small silver fish
afeard: afraid
ruffled: made rough
trundle: to roll on wheels
sped: went fast

Answer key: Wynken, Blynken, and Nod

1. C. A wooden shoe
2. A. The little stars
3. B. Afraid
4. A. Wynken, Blynken, And Nod
5. C. Two little eyes